

accept that position. The judiciary has absolutely nothing to do with the salary of a particular officer whose action is being criticised. If at the instance of the Police Commissioner a false charge is brought to any court do you for a moment think that simply because the Magistrate is drawing only Rs. 150 he will be afraid of the Commissioner of Police and will not exercise his judicial discretion in the matter? I do not think that any person can hold that simply because a person is drawing only Rs. 150 he cannot sit in judgment over the action of the Commissioner of Police, or even the action of the Government.

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri):** He can, but he won't.

**Mr. B. V. K. Menon (Secretary to Government):** He should and he would do it. The District Judge is drawing only Rs. 500. Does it mean to say that he cannot decide a case against the Government or against the Diwan?

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri):** We cannot answer you.

**Mr. B. V. K. Menon (Secretary to Government):** That is because it is unanswerable. Then another thing is that the position of the District Magistrate and the Commissioner of Police here is not absolutely on a par with the District Magistrate of a British Indian Districts and the District Superintendent of Police there. Here I would say the Commissioner of Police stands on a par now with the Inspector-General of Police of British Indian Provinces. The Collector and the District Magistrate, as the Hon'ble Members of this House know is not a judicial officer alone. His pay is fixed on a higher grade because he is in charge of the revenue work also. He is in charge of both the revenue work which is looked after by the Diwan Peishkar here and also that of the District Magistrate's work. Therefore it is not fair to compare the position of the District Magistrate here with the District Magistrate of British India and the Commissioner of Police here with that of the District Superintendent of Police of a British Indian District. Here he is the head of a whole Department and I suppose he is placed on a par with the Inspector-General of Police of a whole British Indian province. That is all I have to say on the merits of the resolution. So I would only request the Hon'ble Members to make clear what exactly they want to put to vote. If it is only the question that the Government should revise the grade of salary of the Magistracy I would submit that it has been partly conceded. The principle has been accepted to a very great extent by the Government. But on the other hand if it is only that the District Magistrate's salary is to be revised then I submit that no amendment to that effect has been seen tabled in this House.

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri):** Not necessary.

**Mr. Deputy President:** I will explain. The resolution if interpreted in the light of the discussion here, will mean that though the House is thankful to the Government for the revision recently made they are not entirely satisfied with it and that they want a revision in the grade of pay of the District Magistrate also.

**Mr. B. V. K. Menon (Secretary to Government):** But Sir, it is only the resolution that is put to vote and not the discussion.

**Mr. Deputy President:** There is a precedent in this House of Government interpreting the resolution in the light of the discussion.

**Mr. K. M. Ibrahim (Cranganur):** What about the First Class Magistrates, Sir?

**Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri):** I have absolutely nothing more to say. I press the resolution to a division. The word "Magistracy" in the resolution very well includes District Magistrate also.

*Resolution put and carried.*

#### RESOLUTION No. 4

##### Separate water reservoir for the General Hospital

**Mrs. Thankamma N. Menon (Ernakulam-Women):** The resolution standing in my name runs thus:—

*This Council recommends to the Government to have immediately a separate water reservoir for the General Hospital at Ernakulam.*

I understand from the Chief Engineer that connection has been given to the main pipe in the General Hospital. I would like to know from the Chief Medical Officer whether continuous water supply is being given to all sections of the General Hospital including the X-Ray and the Ophthalmic Hospital also.

**Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese (Chief Medical Officer):** There are two reservoirs in the General Hospital, a reservoir for storing water from the well and a reservoir for storing pipe water. There is a connection directly from the mains to the taps all over the hospitals so that the second reservoir which takes in water from the first is not ordinarily needed now. In recent months there has not been any complaint at all with regard to water supply from any part of the General Hospital or from the X-Ray Department.

**Mrs. Thankamma N. Menon (Ernakulam-Women):** It is rather surprising to note the Chief Medical Officer who is supposed to be in charge of all the hospitals, giving such information to this House. It is only two days back I had been to the Ophthalmic Hospital and the X-Ray Department. I myself saw water stopped at eleven o'clock. I enquired of the doctors concerned. They also complained that they are not getting sufficient water. Regarding the X-Ray Department it was pointed out that they did not get sufficient water and that they had to take water in buckets to upstairs. They said they are in great difficulty because of the want of water supply.

**Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese (Chief Medical Officer):** I have got information from the Civil Surgeon to the effect that there is no scarcity of water supply.

**Mrs. Thankamma N. Menon (Ernakulam-Women):** I myself saw that. I would request the Chief Medical Officer to enquire into the matter. I am going to press this motion and if the Chief Engineer assures me—

**Mr. A. V. Moothedan (Chalakkudi):** I second it.

**Mr. T. P. Poulse (Kanayannur):** The issue was for a separate reservoir.

**Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese (Chief Medical Officer):** I said there were two reservoirs. There is no necessity for a separate reservoir if connection is given from the main pipe to the X-Ray Department and also to the Ophthalmic Hospital.

**Mr. T. P. Poulse (Kanayannur):** The Chief Medical Officer has stated that there are two reservoirs. He also said that in the recent months there has been no trouble. May I know when these reservoirs came into existence?

**Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese (Chief Medical Officer):** The two reservoirs came into existence long ago. Separate connection came into existence only just lately.

**Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri):** Does the Hon'ble Member for Medicine think that water is necessary for these places. Would he enquire into the reasons for these complaints made by doctors?

**Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese (Chief Medical Officer):** Doctors complained! I do not know I am guided by the Civil Surgeon of the General Hospital. It is very surprising that the doctors have gone to the M. L. Cs. for complaint. I would like the Hon'ble Member to tell me who this doctor is.

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri):** We will not disclose. Please don't ask for such things.

**Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri):** We give this information to the C. M. O. and it is up to the C. M. O. to see to it.

**Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese (Chief Medical Officer):** I would certainly enquire into the matter.

**Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri):** If necessary, provide water also.

**Mrs. Thankamma N. Menon (Ernakulam Women):** Since the Chief Medical Officer has promised to look into the matter I do not wish to press the motion.

*The resolution, by leave, withdrawn*

### Resolution No. 5

#### Mattancheri town improvement scheme

**Mr. Shabdai S. Koder (Nominated):** Sir, I beg to move the following resolution.—

*The council strongly recommends to the Government to prepare an up-to-date town improvement scheme for Mattancheri to be put into execution soon after the termination of the present hostilities.*

The question of Town Improvement Schemes for our town in the State particularly Mattancheri has come up for discussion in this House more times than one. Government at all times have expressed their sympathy with the scheme but nothing tangible has been done so far (hear, hear) Mattancheri being the commercial metropolis of the State with its teeming population and stagnant canals and gutters (hear, hear) and narrow roads used both by human beings and cattle is certainly a disgrace to any civilised Government.